

DETAILED ACTION

This notice of allowance is in response to the after final amendment filed 9 April 2010. Claims 2-25, 27-28, and 30-34 presented for further consideration.

Terminal Disclaimer

The terminal disclaimer filed on 28 April 2010 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of 6,725,250 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-25, 30-32, and 34 are allowed. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.109 and MPEP 1302.14, the following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons Allowance. Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statements of Reasons for Allowance".

Reasons for Allowance

Claim 32, is directed towards a personal computer comprising an internal hardware firewall that separates a protected portion of the microchip from an unprotected portion of the same microchip, and the firewall denying access to the protected portion of the

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microchip. Applicable prior art of record discloses security co-processors, which separate a protected processor from unsecured access. However, Examiner asserts the claimed computer has a patentably distinguishable architecture over this prior art, as the processing units of the microprocessor that are included in the unprotected portion of the microchip are separate from and located outside of the internal hardware firewall. In particular, the prior art of record fails to teach, in the combinations and manner recited in claim 32, the feature of:

“...said unprotected portion of the microchip, including one or more of the processing units of the microprocessor, said one or more unprotected portions being separate from and located outside of said internal hardware firewall...”,

Therefore, the claim is allowed.

Claim 34, is directed towards a microchip comprising an internal hardware firewall that separates a protected portion of the microchip from an unprotected portion of the same microchip, and the firewall denying access to the protected portion of the microchip by a network. Applicable prior art of record discloses security co-processors, which separate a protected processor from unsecured access. However, Examiner asserts the claimed computer has a patentably distinguishable architecture over this prior art, as the processing units of the microprocessor that are included in the unprotected portion of the microchip are separate from and located outside of the internal hardware firewall. .

In particular, the prior art of record fails to teach, in the combinations and manner recited in claim 32, the feature of:

“...said unprotected portion of the microchip, including one or more of the processing units of the microprocessor, said one or more unprotected portions being separate from and located outside of said internal hardware firewall...”,

Therefore, the claim is allowed.

The remaining claims 2-25, 30-31 depend from claims 32 and 34. Accordingly, these claims are allowable, as well.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Roland McAndrews (Reg. No. 41,450) on 5 May 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LASHANYA R. NASH whose telephone number is (571)272-3957. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on (571) 272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Joseph Thomas/

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Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2453

/LaShanya R Nash/
Examiner, Art Unit 2453
May 5, 2010